



News from **Councilmember Todd Gloria**

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

My job as your Councilmember varies a lot, but one thing is certain: it's never dull. From productive budget discussions to real advancements for District Three, the past couple of weeks have been especially lively.

Budget News

City Council Budget Resolution

We are all aware that the budget is a set of priorities for our City. Obviously, with a finite budget, we can only spend so much money. Money spent in one area means there is less to spend in another area. The Council unanimously approved a Budget Resolution yesterday that included approximately 20 options for additional savings and new resources that could total \$36.8 million to \$49.6 million. This represents our proactive approach to setting funding priorities for the Mayor to consider as he develops his budget proposal.

Our direction yesterday was also consistent with the Budget Priorities we approved just last month.

We took the opportunity to plan—to prepare for a difficult budgeting process that will challenge us to meet the needs of residents and employees. This is our opportunity to work with the Mayor to create a budgeting process that meets that challenge. I believe that our discussion about prioritizing public safety two weeks ago urging the Mayor to restore the browned out fire engines was effective. We learned on Monday night that the Mayor intends to do so.

Only by the timely and collaborative effort of the Executive and Legislative branches of the City can we remain in control of our government's future and ensure that our residents' needs are best met. This requires our collective leadership and making our priorities known. This resolution is only our first step.

Potential Elimination of Fire Engine Closures

I am very pleased that Mayor Sanders has responded to the calls from me, several of my Council colleagues, and community members and prioritized public safety in his proposed budget for the next fiscal year. I am especially grateful for his proposal to end the fire engine brownouts that were implemented in February 2010. If the budget is approved by the City Council, Fire Engine 14 in North Park and Fire Engine 11 in Golden Hill will be back serving the communities in and around District Three in the next year. Ending brownouts will require cuts in other City departments, but public safety is

our City's top priority and therefore must be considered first for funding.

City Employee Contracts

Ending the brownouts will demonstrate the City's dedication to your safety. I believe it's also important to recognize the employees who put themselves in harm's way daily to provide that security. On Monday, the City Council approved contracts with our police officers, fire-rescue personnel, lifeguards, and deputy city attorneys. As has been the case for most of the last decade, these contracts include benefit changes that reflect employees' commitment to strengthening San Diego's financial condition at their own expense. The contracts with our employees are estimated to save approximately \$37.9 million in the next fiscal year through cost avoidance. I appreciate our City employees for being exemplary public servants and for again stepping up to the plate to be part of the solution.

City Business This Week

This week, in addition to approving employee contracts and regulations for medical marijuana dispensaries, the City Council addressed several issues impacting District Three.

Roosevelt Middle School Joint Use Field

By late 2012, the field at Roosevelt Middle School will be a grassy public park during non-school hours, thanks to an agreement the City Council approved yesterday. This will transform the dirt field adjacent to the San Diego Zoo into a recreation area that will benefit Roosevelt's students during the day and local neighbors in the evenings and on weekends. The dirt field will be improved into a 1.71 acre irrigated turf multipurpose field, a .32 acre perimeter walkway, a .17 acre non-turf area, and an accessible pathway into the field from Upas Street. I am grateful to the San Diego Unified School Board for partnering with the City and for contributing \$600,000 toward the project.

Woolworths Building Renovation

Improvements to North Park just keep on happening! The old Woolworths Building property located at 3067 University Avenue has been in decline for several decades and vacant for years. It will be redeveloped by North Park Gateway, LLC into 7,000 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor with six market-rate apartments on the second floor. It also includes a historic renovation of the existing façade which dates back to 1949. The project will be LEED certified and will include University Avenue streetscape and sidewalk improvements as well as alley improvements from 31st Street to Grim Avenue.

Parking on 33rd Street

To address parking shortage concerns of nearby neighbors, nine additional parking spaces will be created on 33rd Street between Lincoln Avenue and University Avenue by switching from parallel parking to angled spaces.

SR-163

SR-163 continues to be closed between I-8 and A Street intermittently through May 28

for a sewer pipeline rehabilitation project. Obviously, this route is frequented by people in and around District Three, so alternate travel routes should be planned. The closure schedule is below and additional information is available at www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip. Questions may be addressed by emailing engineering@sandiego.gov or calling 619-533-4207.

SR-163 Closure

March 14 – May 28

Monday – Friday: 8:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. (one lane closure)

Friday and Saturday: 11:00 p.m. – 9:00 a.m. (full closure)

Beyond the closure, I have grown increasingly concerned about the condition of this highway. As someone who drives this route frequently, I know firsthand that trash and litter are accumulating in more areas very often. And I've certainly heard the same complaint from many of you. I have worked with the Environmental Services Department to help ensure recurrent inspections of areas in the City's jurisdiction, especially near the Robinson Avenue exit and along Washington Street under the Vermont Street Bridge. I understand that Caltrans is also aware of the problem along the roadside. Please continue to keep my office updated on the conditions along 163 and any other areas that need to be tidied so we can all be proud of our neighborhoods.

Coffee with your Councilmember

My next community coffee will be held this Saturday, April 16 at Lestat's Coffee House on Park Boulevard in University Heights from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. I hope you'll stop by for some casual conversation about items of interest.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, April 16

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Lestat's Coffee House

4496 Park Blvd.

More Upcoming Events

Balboa Park's Plaza de Panama Project Public Scoping Meeting

Thursday, April 14

5:30 p.m.

Balboa Park Ballroom

2144 Pan American Road

The proposed project would rehabilitate the Plaza de Panama as a ceremonial plaza and gathering space through several means. This proposal continues to generate a great deal of feedback, and I encourage everyone who loves Balboa Park to participate in the planning process to ensure that the final proposal is worthy of the Park and something that will add value to our City's crown jewel. For more information about the meeting and the project, please visit

http://www.balboapark.org/sites/default/files/nop_0.pdf.

Earth Fair

Sunday, April 17, 2011

All Day

Balboa Park

Update and Forum on the Uptown Community Parking District

Wednesday, April 20

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Joyce Beers Community Center

The purposes of this forum are to provide an update on the status of the District, discuss preliminary ideas, and hear from community members interested in parking issues. This will be a forward-looking session focused on organization, not on how parking revenue will be spent or on parking problems.

Roots Fest

Saturday, April 30 – Sunday, May 1

10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Adams Avenue in Normal Heights

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd". The signature is stylized with a large, looped 'T' and a cursive 'odd'.

Todd

If you would no longer like to receive updates, please visit

<http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3>.